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UNCLAS KINGSTON 001196

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SUBJECT: JAMAICA 2005 SPECIAL 301 NOTIFICATION - DEMARCHE
DELIVERED

REF: STATE 079084

1. Econoff delivered reftel talking points to Esmond Reid, a trade specialist at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade (MFAFT) on April 29. Reid stated that a Patent Act that would address the problems identified by the Special 301 report has gone through several drafts, and is currently being reviewed by the Attorney General's office and by several ministries. Reid didn't know when the document would be returned for final drafting, but expressed hope that it would go before Parliament for consideration before 2006.

2. Regarding the U.S.-Jamaica bilateral IP agreement cited in reftel, Reid said it had been his understanding that the agreement, signed in 1994, had been scheduled for a review at the ten-year mark. He said he did not think such a review had taken place in 2004, and wondered what the procedure would be to begin an official evaluation at this time.

TIGHE